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PTO/SB/29 (10-00)

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**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000  
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application  
filed on or after June 8, 1995  
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

|                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Application Number     | 09/834,842          |
| Filing Date            | March 1, 2004       |
| First Named Inventor   | Joseph D. Schroeder |
| Group Art Unit         | 1616                |
| Examiner Name          | Neil S. Levy        |
| Attorney Docket Number | 03192-P0001B        |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See *Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice*, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); interim Rule 65 Red. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- ii ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Enclosed
- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☒ Other Preliminary Amendment

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103© for  
a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall be exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayment to  
Deposit Account No. 19-4516.
- i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☒ Other Any Fee Deficiency
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$860.00 is enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)
- 03/04/2004 CNGUYEN 00000110 09834842  
01 FC:2801 385.00 DP

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

|                     |                |                                  |               |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Name (Print / Type) | Gene S. Winter | Registration No (Attorney/Agent) | 28,352        |
| Signature           |                | Date                             | March 1, 2004 |

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is today being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as *Express Mail Post Office to Addressee Mailing Label* Number EL 574 205 756 US in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE; Post Office Box 1450; Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: March 1, 2004.

|                     |                 |      |               |
|---------------------|-----------------|------|---------------|
| Name (Print / Type) | Lisa A. Evensen | Date | March 1, 2004 |
| Signature           |                 |      |               |

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